

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 10243 290916Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 IO-13 /063 W
-----290919Z 018350 /12

O R 290840Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE IMMEDIATE 1266
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 10243

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS:PFOR PINT KS US
SUBJ:ROKG BRIEFING OF PEACEFUL UNIFICATION COUNCIL OF NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY ON RELATIONS BETWEEN ROKG AND US

REF: (A) SEOUL 10209 280921Z DEC 76, (B) SEOUL 10208 280911Z DEC 76

1. ROKG PEGGED ITS RELEASE OF INFORMATION ON STATE OF ROK-
US RELATIONS TO BRIEFING DELIVERED TO PEACEFUL UNIFICATION
CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL ASSMEBLY ON DECEMBER 28.
COUNCIL HAD BEEN FORMED DECEMBER 15 AND IS COMPOSED OF SPEAKER
OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, TWO VICE SPEAKERS, AND CHIEFS OF DRP,
YUCHONG HOE, AND NDP. DECEMBER 28 BRIEFING WAS COUNCIL'S
FIRST MEETING.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS, BRIEFING WAS CONDUCTED BY PRIME
MINISTER, FOREIGN MINISTER, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND
MINISTER FOR UNIFICATION. APPARENTLY, PRIME MINISTER
MONOPOLIZED THE PRESENTATION AND DREW FROM CHRONOLOGY OF
EVENTS AND UNOFFICIAL BACKGROUND MATERIAL (REF B) WHICH
WERE DISTRIBUTED TO PRESS.

3. YI CHOL-SEUNG, NDP LEADER, INFORMED EMBASSY LOCAL
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EMPLOYEE THAT HE WAS ONLY MEMBER OF COUNCIL TO QUESTION
MINISTERS. HE COMMENTED THAT IN FACT KEY ROKG DEMANDS -
PUBLIC DENIAL BY US ON BLUE HOUSE BUGGING AND GUARANTEED ACCESS
TO KIM SANG-KEUN - HAD NOT AND COULD NOT BE MET. HE AGREED
THAT SOURCE OF FRICTION LIE IN US PRESS AND CERTAIN MEMBERS
OF US CONGRESS. HE OBSERVED THAT PROPER ROKG COUNTERMOVE

WOULD HAVE BEEN TO INFORM KOREAN PRESS AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AT EARLY MOMENT IN CONTROVERSY AND LET KOREAN PRESS AND ASSEMBLY COUNTER US PRESS AND CONGRESSIONAL CRITICS. HE ASKED WHY ROKG HAD NOT RELEASED THIS INFORMATION SOONER. THE MINISTERS REPLIED, "THE GOVERNMENT HAS DEALT WITH PROBLEMS SILENTLY AND CAUTIOUSLY SINCE THEY MIGHT HAVE CAUSED ANTI-AMERICAN EMOTIONS AMONG THE KOREAN PEOPLE AND BE ABUSED BY NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS IN THEIR SCHEME TO ESTRANGE KOREAN CITIZENS FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE." THIS REPLY WAS ALSO FURNISHED TO THE PRESS. YI SAID THE REST OF HIS OBSERVATIONS WERE IGNORED.

4. COUNCIL ISSUED STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR ROKG WHICH WAS REPORTED IN REF A.
SNEIDER

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